



FARM AND HOME

J. E. McINTIRE



FARM NOTES

Agriculture in the South is handicapped by a shortage of work stock. Most of the horses and mules needed in the South could be raised here. Good horses and mules are in demand and could be raised and sold at a profit.

If you want every acre allotted to you this year to do its best, see that it gets a good side dressing.

A PESSIMIST'S VIEW OF COTTON

(Worth Repeating Often)

Cotton is the overcoat of a seed that is planted and grown in the South to keep the producer broke and the buyer crazy.

The fibre varies in grade and staple, and the man who can guess nearest about these is called "a cotton man" by the public, a fool by the farmer, and a poor business man by his creditors.

The price of cotton is fixed in New York, and goes down when you have bought, and up when you have sold. A buyer for a big cotton mill was sent to New York to watch the cotton market. After a few days' deliberation, he wired his firm: "Some think it will go down, and some think it will go up. I do too. Whatever you do will be wrong. Act at once."

Cotton is planted in the spring, mortgaged in the summer, and left in the fields in the winter.—Author unknown.

Y. T. H. F. NEWS NOTES

Robert Lee Kimball will enter the elimination contest of the Future Farmer boys who plan to enter the Public Speaking Contest. He has chosen for his subject, "The Triple-A Program" and has developed a good 10 minute talk on this subject. Should he win in the elimination contest, he will enter the district contest Saturday. If successful there the State contest is next in order, then the Region, on to the National contest in Kansas City, all expenses paid, and an award of \$1,000 for first, \$500 second and \$250.00 third place.

Donald Chamblee has had good results with his chicken project this spring. Donald says, "It was those chickens that took me to Washington."

We hope next year that all the Senior Y. T. H. F. boys will be able to take this sight seeing trip to the capitol.

Field day has been set for Friday, April 22. On account of rains it was impossible for the contest to be held according to the date first set.

Wakelon will enter three boys in the Live Stock Judging contest to be held in Raleigh Saturday. The representatives have not been selected but we hope that those selected will be able to bring back some honors for Wakelon.

On Wednesday night the Wakelon Chapter will meet in Wendell, in the Tri-chapter meeting with Wendell and Wake Forest. The local boys have charge of the program.

The growing of strawberries for home use will be revived in Edgecombe county through the efforts of 4-H club members who are setting from 100 to 300 plants each.

BEAUTIFYING THE FARMSTEAD

Homes are the foundation of the nation; anything to improve the home will improve citizenship. The attitude towards the home is influenced by the surroundings. Beauty in every form has an influence for good.

The efforts of women to make homes attractive include the immediate surroundings of the buildings. Men are cooperating more and more, but on farms the attention that is given to beautification is too often done solely by the women.

Every farm family has the opportunity of beautifying the farmstead. It will tend to make all the family more contented, and will add to the enjoyment of all who pass and tend to increase the value of the farm. These improvements are not expensive, neither do they take up too much time.

A farmstead consists of the farm buildings, and the land immediately surrounding them. When planning to improve the farmstead, not only the house but the whole farmstead must be taken into consideration. The more carefully the plan is worked out, the less difficulties will be encountered as the work progresses. Features to be included are those that may not be carried out for several years, so these improvements may be made when the time comes without interfering with other features of the plan.

In order to study the arrangement of a farmstead to the best advantage, plans should be worked out on paper. The first plan or plat should show the location of the farmstead, all roads and lanes, fields, lots, streams, drains, ditches, fences, permanent natural objects, and all buildings in block form. Number the fields and indicate the size. This will be valuable when planning the amount of fertilizer necessary, and in calculating returns.

The second plan should be in greater detail, showing minor details. Careful plans will save a farmer money and annoyance. The established farmer would do well to prepare the plans with a view towards remodeling, or changing location to increase the efficiency of his plant.

(This article will be followed by a series of articles and plans for beautifying the farmstead.)

There are many beautiful farmsteads in our township, and many of them show that they have been carefully planned and much time used in beautification. I have worked in several states in agricultural work, but none of them have surpassed this vicinity for beautiful farm homes.

FARM PAGE BOYS CHECK TERRACES

The value of an accurately run terrace has at last found its way to the heart of many Wake county farmers who almost daily call upon our Wakelon High School Vocational class or our class instructor for information concerning the correct way to run the terrace.

Demonstrations have been given on several farms over the county by J. E. McIntyre, our vocational teacher, and the class of Future Farmers of the school.

By WILBUR PULLEY.
Wakelon Student

BLACK MEXICAN CORN

Philip Massey has ordered Black Mexican corn for those gardeners who want something extra good to eat. Do not, however, make the mistake of planting this corn before the weather is really warm. It is a tropical grain and will not grow without plenty of heat. But when it does start, it will catch up with much that was planted some time earlier. Black Mexican makes a small, rather long ear, the grains large and well-filled. At first the color is pearly white, but changes as it hardens until when dry it is a deep purple, almost black. In rich land side shoots will come and also bear ears, while the main stalk will have two, or at times three ears. The flavor is excellent, being unusually sweet, and the corn stays usable for roasting ears longer than any other variety known.

NORTH CAROLINA AIMS FOR IMPROVED HOMES

North Carolina is joining wholeheartedly in plans for National Better Homes Week which will be observed April 24-30, according to Miss Pauline Smith, district home agent of the State College Extension Service.

Home Demonstration agents serving 78 counties have been appointed as county chairmen in promoting and leading plans for the campaign.

Miss Smith, who is State chairman of the drive, says the movement is primarily interested in bringing better homes within the reach of all citizens. Through well-balanced demonstrations, the leaders hope to reach the wage-earners and low-salaried workers.

The campaign stresses not only the best in new housing of moderate cost, but also the remodeling of old houses, the improvement of premises, the refinishing of furniture, the development of home recreation, reading, music, health, child care and community beautification.

The strength of the movement lies in the fact that it has the cooperation of a number of governmental agencies, national and local civic organizations, that is working toward an educational end, and that it is wholly non-commercial.

The national campaign is carried on through volunteer local committees with experienced civic leaders as chairmen. Last year approximately 2,445,000 families participated in the campaign.

Formulating Better Homes programs rests with local committees, since these groups are best able to plan for their specific communities.

WEANING CALVES

The calf should be left with the cow from one to three days, depending upon the condition of the cow's udder. This allows the calf to get the colostrum milk, has a beneficial effect upon the udder, and permits the animal to nurse whenever it desires food. The calf should then be removed and placed in a clean, well-bedded individual stall for about three weeks. They are then turned into a pen with other calves of like age and fed the regular ration for growing calves.

Thirty-four Yancy County farmers have just finished planting 66,000 forest tree seedlings on eroded spots on their farms.

PLANT SWEET CORN

Except in the mountain section, the name "sweet corn" has little significance to farmers and market gardeners of North Carolina.

In other sections of the State, the familiar type is "roasting ear" corn which is usually an early variety of field corn picked while comparatively young.

There is no comparison between the quality of real sweet corn and that of young field corn. Sweet corn is far superior, both in sugar content and in tenderness.

General opinion for many years has held that sweet corn could not be grown successfully in the South. Some of the older varieties were not well adapted, but with the breeding of new hybrids, there is now a large number of good varieties on the market.

In field tests at Raleigh, the most outstanding variety was Golden Cross Bantam. Other good varieties are Whipcross, Spangcross, and Bantam Evergreen Hybrid. One of the best of the new white varieties is Redgreen Hybrid.

Sweet corn is grown in much the same manner as field corn, although it prefers richer soils. Having a small stalk, it can be planted closer. Rows should be spaced 3 1-2 feet apart and hills 20 to 24 inches apart in the row.

In order to have a succession of corn, plantings should be made every two weeks. To secure better pollination, plantings should be made in blocks of three or four rows rather than in single rows.

One of the very best sweet corns is Black Mexican. It is a hot weather corn, small cob, medium sized grain. It is white in the roasting

ear stage and stays eatable longer than other corns. It turns a blue-black as it hardens. It will grow several ears to the stalk frequently.

SHOE SHINING BIG BUSINESS

Shoe shining and shoe repairing assume the importance of a major business, according to Census Bureau reports. Receipts totaled \$109,657,000 in 1935. Employees numbered 25,007 in addition to 61,118 active proprietors and firm members.

Four beef calves have been purchased by 4-H club boys of Pitt county and will be grown out for exhibition and sale this fall.

It Is Dangerous

It is dangerous to sell a SUBSTITUTE for 666 just to make three or four cents more. Customers are your best assets; lose them and you lose your business. 666 is worth three or four times as much as a SUBSTITUTE.

FOR SALE: Cabbage, Onion and Collard Plants, all assorted, 500 plants, 50c; 1,000 plants, 75c; Sweet Potato and Tomato plants, 500 plants, 75c; 1,000, \$1.25; Strawberry, Pepper and Egg Plants, \$2.00 per 1,000.—Dorris Plant Co., Valdosta, Ga.

SEED CORN

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FOR YOUR YARD
Sweet-peas, scarlet sage, balsam, pinks, hollyhocks, pansies, phlox, nasturtiums, zinnias, poppies and many others.